

## ELIMINATION OF DUTY ON UPHOLSTERY REGULATORS AND UPHOLSTERERS' REGULATING NEEDLES AND PINS

DECEMBER 10, 1970.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. MILLS, from the Committee on Ways and Means,  
submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 10875]

The Committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 10875) to amend the Tariff Schedules of the United States to permit the importation of upholstery regulators, upholsterers' regulating needles, and upholsterers' pins free of duty, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of H.R. 10875 is to amend the tariff schedules of the United States and to make duty free the imports of upholstery regulators, upholsterers' regulating needles, and upholsterers' pins.

#### GENERAL STATEMENT

H.R. 10875 would provide for the duty-free treatment for imports of upholstery regulators, upholsterers' regulating needles, and upholsterers' pins by establishing a new item 651.06 in the tariff schedules of the United States (TSUS) under which all imports of these articles would be free of duty.

Upholstery regulators are similar to knitting needles and are used to stuff furniture being upholstered. They are presently dutiable under TSUS item 651.04 at 13 percent ad valorem.

Upholsterers' regulating needles are eyeless needles, about 12 inches in length and are presently dutiable under item 651.47 at 11.5 percent ad valorem. Upholsterers' pins are 3 inches in length with a loop instead of a head. These pins are dutiable under item 657.20 at 13

percent ad valorem. The rates of duty on TSUS item numbers 651.04, 651.47, and 657.20 are being reduced in stages to 9.5 percent, 8.5 percent, and 9.5 percent, respectively, effective January 1, 1972, pursuant to the Kennedy Round of Trade Negotiations.

Your committee is informed that there is no commercial production of these articles in the United States and that the domestic upholstery trade is dependent on imports of these articles. Imports of upholstery regulators and upholsterers' pins and regulating needles are not separately reported. However, it is known that the volume of such imports is small.

The committee has received favorable reports on H.R. 10875 from the Departments of Labor, Commerce, Treasury, and State. No objection to the bill was received by your committee.

In view of the above, your committee is unanimous in recommending passage of H.R. 10875.

### CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3 of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

### TARIFF SCHEDULES OF THE UNITED STATES

#### SCHEDULE 6.—METALS AND METAL PRODUCTS

#### Part 3.—Metal Products

| Item   | Articles   | Rates of duty |             |
|--------|--|---------------|-------------|
|        |  | 1             | 2           |
|        | Subpt. E.—Tools, cutlery, forks, and spoons  |               |             |
| *      | *  | *             | *           |
|        | Handsewing or darning needles, bodkins, crochet hooks, embroidery stiletos, [upholstery regulators, and] other hand needles, and upholstery regulators, upholsterer's regulating needles, and upholsterer's pins, all the foregoing, of metal; and needle books and needle cases, furnished with assortments of hand needles only: |               |             |
|        | Needle books and needle cases:   |               |             |
| 651.01 | Valued under \$1.25 per dozen books or cases.....  | 26.5% ad val. | 45% ad val. |
| 651.03 | Valued \$1.25 or more per dozen books or cases.....  | 17.5% ad val. | 45% ad val. |
| 651.04 | Embroidery stiletos [and upholstery regulators].....   | 13% ad val.   | 45% ad val. |
|        | Other:   |               |             |
| 651.05 | Hand sewing or darning needles.....  | Free          | Free        |
| 651.06 | Upholstery regulators, upholsterer's regulating needles, and upholsterer's pins.....   | Free          | Free        |
| *      | *  | *             | *           |

